

PATENTS  
Attorney Docket No. IHG-001.01

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace the paragraph at lines 14-18 of page 1 with the following replacement paragraph:

Over the past several years, the Internet has become an important mechanism for conducting business. It has helped reduce business cost and enabled the customized delivery of goods and services. To facilitate exchange of goods and services, electronic commerce technologies have been developed, ranging from simple Internet shopping sites to auction sites such as Yahoo (<http://www.yahoo.com>) and eBay (<http://www.ebay.com>).